

MCLENNAN

Highlander Quarterly

Spring 2009

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*Remember the MCC Foundation
in your annual giving
and estate planning.*

"CABARET" GALA A ROARING SUCCESS!

"Captivating" was the word most used to describe the venue for the 2009 Hearts in the Arts Gala on February 28. The spectacular Steinbeck Bend-area home of Don and Carol Behringer, which has been featured among the nation's top Trophy Hunter showcases, hosted more than 300 guests of the Foundation for the Gala cocktail dinner buffet. While patrons admired the hundreds of exotic game mounts that adorn the home, they enjoyed dinner and the music of Canyon



Gala hosts Don and Carol Behringer with Foundation Executive Director Harry Harelik.

Alumni Spotlight



Magic Man

Jason Caballero has spent his short life making magic ... first as a young magician and today as a stage manager bringing stories to life in the theatre. Jason attended McLennan Community College as a theatre major from 1997-1999. He later attended and graduated from the North Carolina School of the Arts, where he earned a degree in Stage Management in 2007.



Jason broke into the entertainment industry performing magic at the age of six, and continued professionally, winning state awards at 10 years old and later national and international awards. He was recognized by Siegfried and Roy, Lance Burton and others

... see Alumni p. 3



Nancy Cox, MCC Board President Randy Cox, and daughter Jenny Clines.

Kafer's student jazz ensemble. The McLennan Theatre performance of the award-winning musical "Cabaret" was pure delight. This year's gala totaled a record-high \$15,000 in proceeds. Our heartfelt thanks go out to everyone—sponsors, patrons, and friends—who supported this important fundraiser for the MCC Foundation!

... More Gala Pictures p.2

... Meet our Gala Sponsors p.2



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Office Location: 1728 Powell Drive (by The Highlands Gym)

MORE FACES FROM A "CABARET" GALA EVENING!



*Thanks to our
Gala Sponsors!*



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NEW VETERANS SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED

The MCC Foundation was privileged to receive a new \$25,000 endowed scholarship in the name of Master Sgt. Rufus Russell, a highly decorated Air Force pilot who passed away last year.

The scholarship is designed primarily to assist veterans or their dependents or descendants. With the scholarship comes a display of his medals assembled by a Service Learning Class from the Round Rock Independent School District. The display, located on the third floor of the MCC Learning Technology Center, was enhanced with the assistance of Dan Martinson, director of the MCC Library, and Casey Hubble, MCC government instructor. The tribute includes a model of the helicopter piloted by Sgt. Russell during the Vietnam War and maps of Southeast Asia. The library has included books related to the war and Southeast Asia.

Sgt. Russell's brother, Jimmie Russell, who grew up in Waco, teaches the Service Learning Class in Round Rock and used his brother's life and philanthropy as a teaching opportunity for his students.

MCC hosted the class for an unveiling ceremony in December. Sgt. Russell's nephew, Dennis Pearce (an MCC Spanish instructor), also collaborated on the project and the scholarship.



Jimmie Russell salutes his brother Sgt. Rufus Russell's military display in the MCC Learning Technology Center.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT, *Continued*

as one of the top ten teenage performers in the country. During a high school production of *Anything Goes*, Jason turned his attention to stage management, and he has remained behind the scenes ever since. In 2007-08, Jason worked for the stage operations crew at the Alliance Theatre for *Christmas Carol*, *Sophisticated Ladies* and *Seussical the Musical*. He was the assistant stage manager for the 50th anniversary production of *West Side Story* Directed by Gerald Freedman at the North Carolina School of the Arts.

Jason is currently a Kenan Fellow at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC, where his shows have included *Mermaids*, *Monsters and the World Painted Purple*, and *Goodnight Moon* (both of which have been nominated in four categories for a Helen Hayes Award.) His professional resume also includes managing dozens of well-known productions including *Heidi Chronicle*, *Brothers Karamazov*, *The Mandrake Musical*, *Sunshine Boys* and *The Fantasticks*.

And, since 1993, Jason has volunteered at the Kent Cummins Magic Camp in Austin, where campers ages 6-12 learn magic, juggling and puppetry. He lives in Pflugerville and can be reached at jasonrcab@mac.com.

HIGHLANDER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION UPDATE



Connections far and wide continue to be made for MCC through the Highlander Alumni Association. Membership now stands at more than 735 alumni and friends. Many former students continue to join from far-flung locations and from years long past. It's amazing how people are finding out about it ... talk about a testimony to the power of the Internet!

PANdemonium!

On February 16, the alumni association was delighted to sponsor a performance by the Tarleton State University Steel Drum Band *PANdemonium* during MCC's Family Fun Night at the Highlands Gym. The band brought its high-energy Caribbean flavor to halftime of both the men's and women's basketball games. The event not only showcased this unique musical style but also raised the visibility of Tarleton's bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs taught at MCC through the University Center.

Distinguished Alumni, Young Leader Awards

We are proud to announce the Highlander Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Award and Distinguished Young Leader Award competitions.

The awards are designed to recognize a graduating student, alumnus or alumna of MCC who has demonstrated a record of distinguished service and extraordinary achievement in a particular discipline, organization or cause that brings distinction to the college.

We will accept nominations for both through June, and the awardees will be honored at MCC's Scholarship Recognition ceremony in early September. To access the nomination forms, visit <http://alumni.mclennan.edu>.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION UPDATE, continued

Discounts and Member Cards

The association has been developing partnerships with local merchants to offer discounts to alumni association members and within the next month we hope to do our first major mail-out of customized membership cards to all members. These cards will enable association members to receive discounts at all MCC events and at local vendors who support the college.



Christopher Cross in Concert

In other entertainment news, the alumni association will again partner with MCC's Bosque River Stage to offer half-price tickets to this spring's headliner artist Christopher Cross, who will appear at the stage on Friday, May 8. This five-time Grammy and Oscar-winning artist is best known for "Sailing," "Ride Like the Wind," "Swept Away," and the theme to the movie "Arthur." Reserved seat tickets are \$30, but alumni association **members pay only \$15!** Just call the MCC Box Office at 299-8200 and identify yourself as an alumni member to receive the discount (subject to member verification.)



"Toast to Graduates"

Plans are also underway for outreach to the many, many health careers graduates who are working in Waco hospitals. MCC's "Toast to Graduates" will feature come-and-go breakfast receptions honoring employees at Hillcrest and Providence who studied at MCC. Stay tuned for more details!

Remember - the Highlander Alumni Association is for alumni AND FRIENDS of MCC: you don't have to be a graduate or even a former student to join! The association welcomes members from campus (including current students), retirees and friends in the community who have an interest in MCC. There is no cost to join, but there are numerous benefits. Check it out today at <http://alumni.mclennan.edu>.



Grammy and Oscar Award-winning artist Christopher Cross will perform at the Bosque River Stage on May 8.

*Interested in Joining
the Highlander
Alumni Association?*

It's quick and easy:
Simply visit
<http://alumni.mclennan.edu>.
Click on "Register" and
follow the prompts.
Membership is free!

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MAC GRAND OPENING A GRAND DAY FOR MCC



Hundreds of friends of McLennan Community College gathered on March 26 to celebrate the grand opening of the Dennis F. Michaelis Academic Center (MAC), the first of three new campus buildings funded by the 2006 bond election. The lobby showcases a beautiful oil painting of Dr. Michaelis done by local artist Sherry Harrington and funded by Foundation donors Mazanec Construction and RBDR Architects.



The 93,000-square foot building features dozens of multipurpose classrooms, lecture halls, wireless technology throughout, and numerous study areas.

It is also home to the MCC bookstore, a cafe, the University Center, and the MCC Alternative Teacher Certification Program. Some administrative offices will move in to the building in May; classes begin June 1.



HIGHLANDER *Legacy Plaza*

The MCC Foundation continues to sell large and small brick pavers for the new Highlander Legacy Plaza, adjacent to the Dennis F. Michaelis Academic Center.

Response from the staff, faculty and community

has been impressive, as donors have memorialized their own names or

those of associates, family, and friends. The pavers (\$100 for 4" x 8" and \$250 for 9" x 9")

make

wonderful gifts for special occasions. For more information, visit the MCC Foundation web site at www.mclennan.edu/departments/foundation.



Of Interest to Alumni ...

McLennan
Community
College



MCC, Texas Tech New Partners

McLennan Community College and Texas Tech University have announced a partnership that will create new undergraduate and graduate degree options for Central Texas residents through the University Center at MCC. The University Center is a collaboration between the college and four-year universities that offer complete degree programs on the MCC campus. Tech courses could begin at MCC as soon as Fall 2009.

New Foundation Board Members and Officers

The McLennan Community College Foundation is happy to welcome the following new board members beginning their terms in 2009:

K. Paul Holt
Ann Roznovsky
Lisa Sheldon

In addition, the following officers were formally elected at the first 2009 Foundation board meeting in February:

Chair: Terry Stevens
Vice Chair: C. Ray Perry
Secretary: Dr. Dennis Michaelis
Treasurer: Dottie Fornoff

The members of the MCC Board of Trustees and MCC Foundation Board are community volunteers who selflessly invest their time and talents for the growth and success of McLennan Community College.

Scholarship Update

The McLennan Community College scholarship committee is working in earnest to assess the scholarship applications submitted for the 2009-2010 school year. The committee is meeting regularly through the spring in order to award most available scholarships by May 1. Last year, the MCC Foundation awarded 357 scholarships valued at almost \$290,000.

With this spring's record MCC enrollment and sliding endowment values, the MCC Foundation is concentrating on securing new scholarship funds as well as contributions to bolster values for existing scholarship funds. Endowed scholarship funds require a \$15,000 minimum (which can be added over a period of years) and \$25,000 minimum for Presidential Scholarships. Scholarships can be tailored to donors' interests as to what kind of student or area of study they would like to support. Endowed scholarships may be named as the donor requests.

Of new significance is scholarship availability for part-time students. Generally students must take at least 12 hours to be qualified as a full-time student for an MCC Foundation scholarship (nursing students are considered full time with nine hours of classes). However, many students attend MCC on a part-time basis because of family and work responsibilities. Therefore, the MCC Foundation is interested in forming new scholarship funds for part-time students where appropriate.

Your support is more crucial than ever to meet the ever-expanding need for scholarships at MCC. If you are interested in helping fund a new or existing scholarship, please contact Foundation Executive Director Harry Harelik at 299-8606 or harelik@mcclennan.edu. He is happy to visit on all aspects of scholarship funds, including ways in which to contribute, types of assets to contribute (in place of or in addition to cash), estate and gift planning and income tax planning.



5th Annual Tax & Financial Planning Institute at McLennan Community College

Tuesday, November 10, 2009
MCC Conference Center
4601 N. 19th St., Waco, Texas

Save the Date: Nov. 10

This full-day professional conference features local, regional, and national experts presenting on topics of interest to CPAs, attorneys, financial advisors, and estate planners. Topics expected to include:

- Helping Clients Select Social Security Payout Options
 - Retirement Plan Choices
- The Nuts and Bolts of Health Insurance
- Annual Tax Update and Economic Stimulus Details
- Understanding Property Tax Rules and Reporting
- Basics of New International Financial Reporting Standards

To help maintain lower registration costs, we are seeking sponsors for this event. If your firm is interested in supporting the institute, please contact Harry Harelik at 254-299-8606 or hharelik@mclennan.edu.

Mark your calendars now for the **2009 MCC Foundation Golf Tournament** on **Friday, Oct. 2, 2009** at Cottonwood Creek Golf Course.

There are a limited number of \$10,000 Diamond and \$5,000 Platinum sponsorships available, as well as other levels ranging from \$200 to \$2,500. The Foundation is always seeking quality items for participant gifts, silent auction items, and raffle prizes! For more information on sponsorship opportunities at the Foundation, contact Rose DeLeon at 299-8604 or rdeleon@mclennan.edu.

FOUNDATION CONGRATULATES McKOWN ON MCC PRESIDENCY



The McLennan Community College Board of Trustees has named Dr. Johnette McKown, MCC's current Executive Vice President, as the college's third president.

She will continue to serve as Executive Vice President until Aug. 31 and begin as the new president on Sept. 1, when current MCC President Dennis Michaelis retires.

McKown has been at MCC since 1989, first as Vice President of Business Services and since 2002 as Executive Vice President. Prior to her work at MCC, she served for 14 years at Paris Junior College.

McKown received her bachelor's degree from Louisiana College, her master's in education from Texas A&M University—Commerce, an associate degree from Paris Junior College and her doctoral degree in education from Texas A&M University—Commerce. She and her husband Stan live in Waco.

A LEGACY WORTH LEAVING

Many philanthropists, including those who make large lifetime gifts to charity as well as those making very modest gifts, understand the need and importance of making gifts NOW... monthly, annually or when recognizing special people or occasions. These gifts are the lifeline of

“a gift or bequest to the MCC Foundation is indeed a gift and an investment to the entire local area.”

many charitable organizations that need dollars for their programs and mission.

What often is overlooked, however, is the gift one can make at death. Gifts at death don't need to be complicated or costly, nor do they need to

impoverish family beneficiaries who might otherwise share in the estate of a deceased loved one.

First, whether an estate is small or large, an easy way to ensure that a gift (bequest) by will is made to a favorite charity without encroaching on the estate's importance to beneficiaries is to leave a percentage of the estate (versus a given dollar amount) to the charity. In that way, whatever the size of the net estate (after payment of all expenses), some percentage can go to the charity.

For example, on a net estate of \$50,000, a 5 percent bequest gives \$2,500 to the charity and the balance to other beneficiaries. Even on a small estate, a \$2,500 bequest would not be punitive to the other beneficiaries, but it could make a big difference to the charity! Likewise, on a \$1 million dollar estate, a 5 percent bequest in the will could channel \$50,000 to charitable projects and programs and still leave \$950,000 to other beneficiaries.

By: Harry I. Harelik, MPA, CPA, CFRE

To ensure that a bequest is handled properly, the best procedure is to contact an attorney and have him or her include a provision directly in the writing of a will or in the adding of an addition to an already drafted will, called a codicil. The wording to leave an important gift to, for instance, a scholarship at the MCC Foundation might be simply:

I hereby give and bequeath to the McLennan Community College Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation having its principal offices at 1400 College Drive, Waco, Texas 76708, ___% of my estate remaining after all expenses have been paid and calculated before any charitable contributions or beneficiary bequests have been distributed. This bequest should be placed in the general unendowed scholarship fund at the MCC Foundation, or if this bequest meets or exceeds the minimum amount necessary for a permanent named endowed fund, then I bequeath my gift to the _____ Scholarship Fund (the donor may select the name of the fund that her prefers.)

A charitable bequest of any nature should be coordinated between one's attorney and the MCC Foundation, and we are happy to accommodate anyone who has a gift by will (called a testamentary gift) in mind. Because McLennan Community College returns more if its students to our local community than any other institution of higher learning, a gift or bequest to the MCC Foundation, is indeed a gift and an investment to the entire local area.

NEW FUND FOR SMALL KIDS!

In an effort to help qualifying parents in getting their children into MCC's Kids' College this summer, a new fund has been set up at the MCC Foundation to award scholarships to children attending Kids' College. If you are interested in contributing, please contact the MCC Foundation at 299-8604 or email hharelik@mcclennan.edu.

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

In Honor of Rick Butler, given by:

Julian Gonzales

In Honor of the Dennis F. Michaelis Academic Center, given by:

Dr. and Mrs. Michael S. Worner

In Honor of Dr. Ann Sims, given by:

Jonathan and Annette Lindsey

In Honor of Raymond Spittler, given by:

Mary Pratt

In Honor of Robert and Anita Stockburger, given by:

Brenda Hand

In Memory of Maxine Abbott, given by:

Harry I. Harelik

Dr. Charlotte Laughlin

Linda Stanford

In Memory of Mildred Anderson, given by:

Stan and Nancy Mitchell

In Memory of Cleoda Bables, given by:

Mr. and Mrs. James Hardwick, Mr. and Mrs. Don Hay,

Harry I. Harelik, Dr. and Mrs. Dennis F. Michaelis

In Memory of Jim Batchelder, given by:

Susan and Charles Copeland

In Memory of Judge John D. Cabaniss, given by:

Harry Harelik, Jaynes, Reitmeier, Boyd & Therrell, P.C.

In Memory of Mary Sue Dodson, given by:

David, Annette, Lindsey, and Kelsey Scott,

Dr. Charlotte Laughlin, James and Teresa Rambo,

Dr. Cynthia M. SoRelle

In Memory of Maximina Escalante Fonseca, given by:

Dr. Charlotte Laughlin

In Memory of Luther "Tony" Fisher, given by:

Harry I. Harelik

In Memory of Cecilia "Sheila" Gonzales, given by:

Robert and Michelle Johnson

In Memory of Babbie Henderson, given by:

Dr. Charlotte Laughlin

In Memory of Susan Henshaw, given by:

Harry I. Harelik, Dr. Charlotte Laughlin, Linda Stanford

In Memory of Carole Johnson, given by:

Robert and Michelle Johnson

In Memory of Ethel Kocian, given by:

Harry I. Harelik

In Memory of Amy Shields Mann, given by:

Harry I. Harelik

In Memory of Nora McMahan, given by:

Greg and Patti Mitchell, Stan and Nancy Mitchell

DECEMBER 2, 2008 - MARCH 31, 2009

In Memory of Brigadier General Carl D. McIntosh, by:

Hatch Bailey, Julia Bales, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Englander,

Mr. and Mrs. James Hardwick, Harry I. Harelik, Dr. and

Mrs. Sam H. Hastings, Mr. and Mrs. Don Hay, Joyce Voigt

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Snider, Gloria Warner

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Jeanne and Family

In Memory of Margaret Gilder Nesbitt, given by:

Harry I. Harelik

In Memory of James Plemons, given by:

Robert and Michelle Johnson

In Memory of Butch Pruett, given by:

Robert and Michelle Johnson

In Memory of Lloyd Pruett, given by:

Robert and Michelle Johnson

In Memory of Lynol Pruett, given by:

Robert and Michelle Johnson

In Memory of Mary Pruett, given by:

Robert and Michelle Johnson

In Memory of Dorothy (Dot) Reed, given by:

Robert and Michelle Johnson

In Memory of Carole Rice, given by:

Dr. Charlotte Laughlin

In Memory of Juanita Smith, given by:

Mrs. A. P. Castillo, Jr.

In Memory of Jacob Sobel, given by:

Lucie E. Koppelman

In Memory of Linda Storm, given by:

Harry I. Harelik

In Memory of Ted Talbot, given by:

Harry I. Harelik

In Memory of Richard Tatum, given by:

Robert D. (Bob) Ford

In Memory of Lucile Lacy Taylor II, given by:

Harry I. Harelik

In Memory of Isidore Urive, Sr., given by:

Harry I. Harelik

In Memory of Kristen Winters Walker, given by:

Dr. Charlotte Laughlin

In Memory of Henrietta Willis, given by:

Susan Copeland, Harry I. Harelik, Dr. Charlotte Laughlin,

MCC Business Office, MCC Human Resource Office,

MCC MAC Card Office, and David, Annette, Lindsey, and

Kelsey Scott